

F-4-84

Charles M. Brane House
Middletown vicinity
Private

Ca. 1895

The Charles M. Brane House is a frame, two-story dwelling with a central cross gable, a one-story porch, and asbestos shingle siding originally built about 1895 to replace an earlier farmhouse. The former 70-acre farm of which the house was the main structure has been developed around the house as a modern subdivision and all other buildings of the farmstead have been demolished. The house has a common vernacular style found throughout Frederick County during the last quarter of the 19th century. Its integrity level is low because of exterior finish alterations and interior changes made when the house was converted to two apartments.

F-4-84
Charles M. Brane House
Middletown
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance, A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence

Known Design Source: None

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes xno

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Charles M. Brane House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 7105 Willow Tree Drive not for publicationcity, town Middletown x vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> x occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> </u> x building(s)	<u> </u> x private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u> </u> x private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> x yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u> </u> x not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert J. & Doris F. McCutcheon

street & number P.O. Box 95 telephone no.:

city, town Braddock Heights state and zip code Md. 21714

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 1010

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 202

city, town Frederick state Md. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-4-84

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

The Charles M. Brane House is a two-story frame dwelling built about 1895 as the principal dwelling of a 70-acre farm which has been developed in the 1970's and 1980's as a residential suburb surrounding the former farmhouse, the only remaining structure of the original farmstead. It is located on the east side of Willow Tree Drive about 100 yards south of U.S. 40A near Middletown, Frederick County, Maryland. The former entrance drive to the farmstead is still partially visible as an intermittent allee of trees just east of Willow Tree Drive, crossing an open space north of the Brane House. The principal elevation of the house faces north and its exterior is covered with asbestos shingle siding. It is currently used as a duplex apartment building, but will be returned to single family use in the near future.

The Brane House's north elevation has three bays with a central cross gable featuring paired round-arched windows. A one-story porch with modern cast iron columns shelters the first story and center entrance. The porch originally had Tuscan columns, as seen in the half-round pilaster columns at the junction of the porch and the front wall of the house. The windows are paired 1/1 sash in each bay with replacement louvred shutters. The paneled door has glazed upper sections. The roof is composition material with interior end chimneys. The house has a two-story rear wing with an integral two-story porch. A modern frame stairway on the east side leads to the second level as the entrance to the upper level apartment. A one-story shed addition which contains a pantry is attached to the south elevation of the wing. A screened one-story porch on the west elevation was added when the building was converted to two units. The main floor interior was inaccessible; however, the second story has pine trim and grained doors with bull's-eye corner blocks. Improvements in the bathroom and added partition walls suggest that similar features would be present in the first floor. Williams and McKinsey's History of Frederick County (1910) describes the house as having ten rooms when built and the farm as having a new barn. The barn and all other outbuildings have been demolished.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-4-84

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates C. 1895 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Charles M. Brane House, built about 1895 to replace an earlier residence, has a common vernacular style found in structures of the last quarter of the 19th century throughout Frederick County. Its integrity level is low, having been resurfaced with asbestos shingles and composition roofing. The interior has been divided into two units and the other buildings of the original farmstead have been demolished. The siting of the house within a modern subdivision is maintained only by a designated "open space" which is part of the Brane House parcel. Traces of the former entrance drive are the only reminders of the former farmstead, established in the second quarter of the 19th century as the Daniel Menchey farm. In 1893, Charles M. Brane (1857-1921) purchased the 70-acre farm and, in time, replaced the original house with the existing frame house with a ten-room original plan and added a new barn. In 1910, the farm was described in the county history as "well improved, under a high state of cultivation and has one of the best orchards in the district." Only the dwelling remains standing, the farm having been developed as a subdivision in the 1970's and 1980's.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-4-84

Bond, Isaac. Map of Frederick County, 1858.

Land Records of Frederick County

Titus, C.O., Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.

Williams, T.J.C., and Folger McKinsey. History of Frederick County, 1910. Reprinted
Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1979, p. 1218.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2 acresQuadrangle name Middletown, Md.Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingB

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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D

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E

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Concurrent with Tax Map 65, Parcel 136

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. date June 1992

street & number 12 E. Church Street telephone 696-2958

city or town Frederick state Md. 21701

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCE
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
(301) 776-0000

7105 Willow Tree Dr.

LIBER/F 10	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
1010/202 5 Jan 77	Robert J. & Doris J. McCutcheon	Fountaindale Dev. Co.	Lot 4, Block F Fountaindale South + "Open Space" 100 x 150 feet imm. north of Lot 4		
953/838 3 Jan 75	Noah E. Kefauver, Jr. (pres. of Fountaindale Dev. Co.)	Noah E. Kefauver	700 65 A. #81/480 31 Oct 49		
630/329 29 Dec 59	Noah E. Kefauver, Jr.	Noah E. & Lucretia J. Kefauver	D. 2: 354/465 7 Oct 25		
481/480 31 Oct 49	Noah E. Kefauver Jr. & Lucretia J. Kefauver	Mary B. & Daniel M. Castle	70 A. 418/319 19 Jul 39		
418/319 19 Jul 39	Grace B. Holter & Mary B. Castle	Sarah E. Brane	70 A.		
JLS 3/636 27 Mar 1893	Sarah E. & Charles M. Brane (Charles died 30 Aug 21)	Emma J. & Charles C. Coblenz	700. Commonly known as the Menchey Farm, deeded by will to	\$4,300	F-4-84
WIP 9/76 11 Mar 1889	Emma J. Coblenz	Elija Menchey & Rebecca P. Coblenz	700. devised by will of Mary Menchey will Rev'd CH 1/445 29 May 1859	\$4,000	

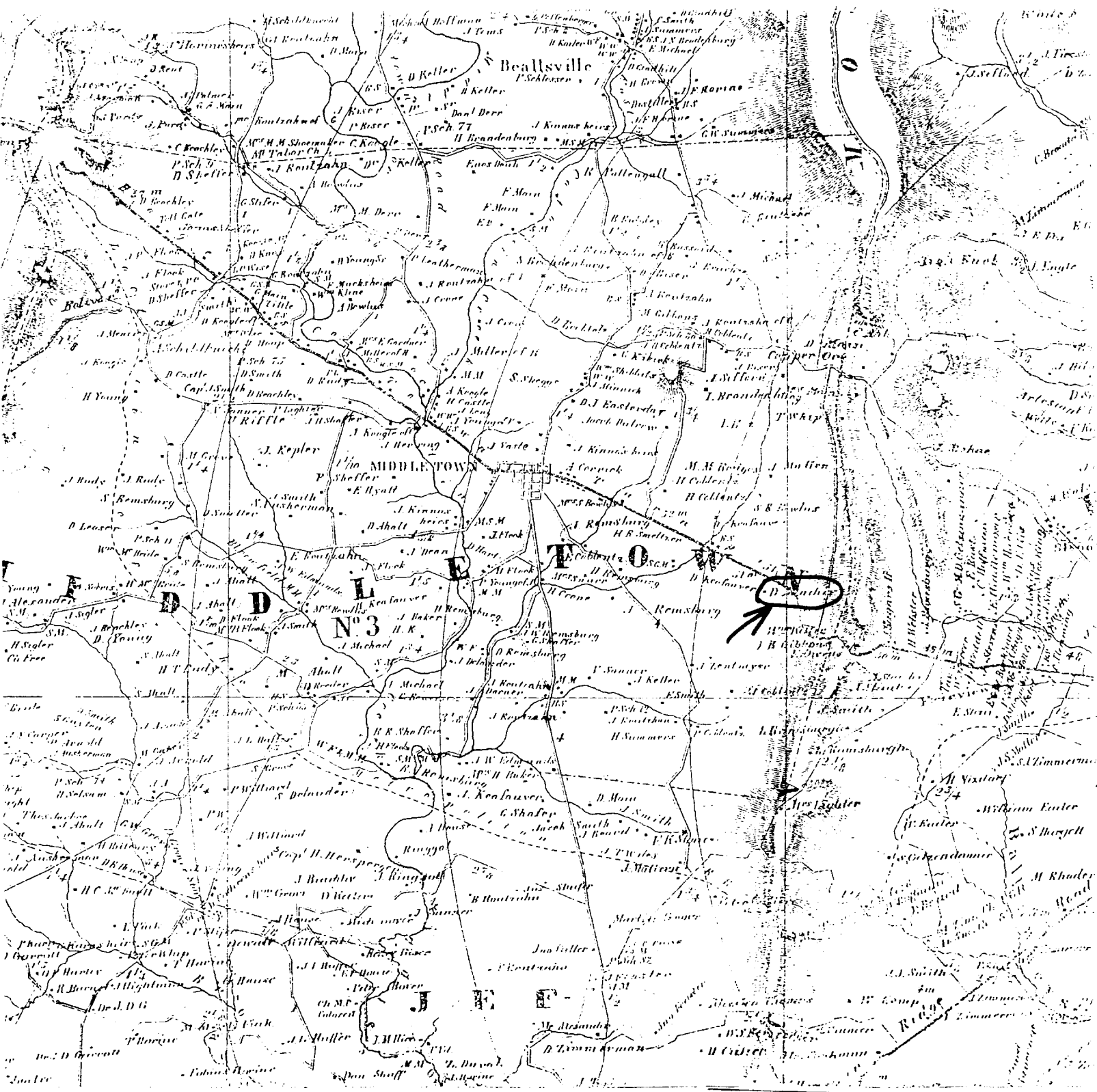
Will Record
GH 1/445
26 May 1859

Eliza Menchey
& Rebecca Coblenz
(Wife of Oliver P.
Coblenz)

Mary Menchey

farm inherited by Mary from her father 70A, now occupied by Oliver P. Colclough	value \$4 000
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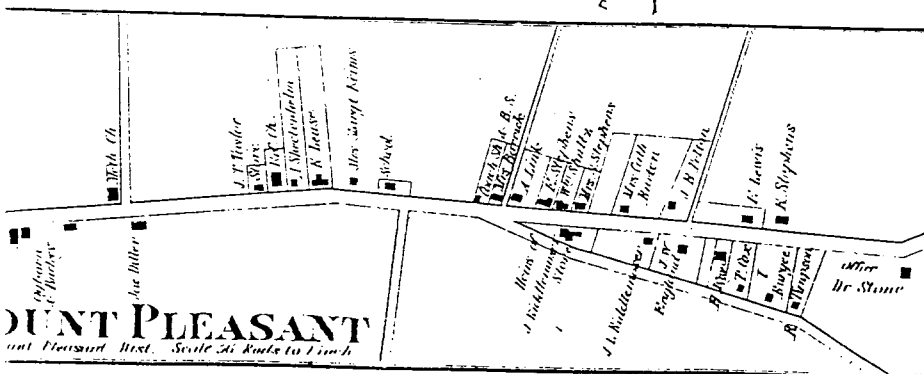
F-4-84

Charles M. Brane House

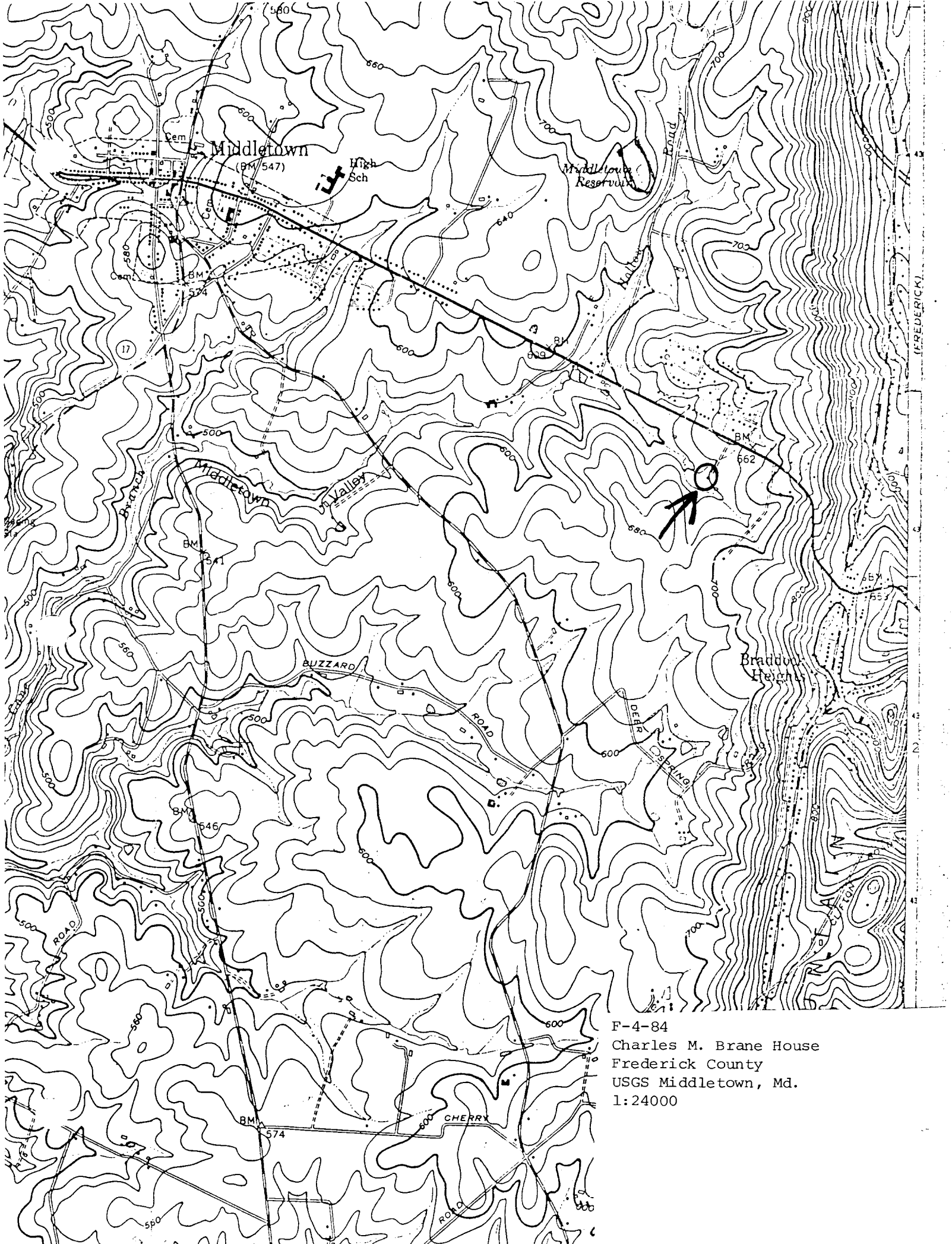
Frederick County

Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick
County, 1858.

Scale 1½ Inches to the Mile



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Charles M. Brane House
Frederick County
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick
County, 1873.



F-4-84
Charles M. Brane House
Frederick County
USGS Middletown, Md.
1:24000



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Charles M. Brane House

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

June 1992

Neg. 50.711d. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Northwest corner view

1/2



F-4-84

Charles M. Brone House

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

June 1992

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Southeast elevation

2/2